But ſhould it be proved that woman is naturally weaker than man, from whence does it follow that it is natural for her to labour to become ſtill weaker than nature intended her to be? Arguments of this caſt are an inſult to

'minds by the ſeverer principles of reaſon and philoſophy, 'we breed them to uſeleſs arts, which terminate in vanity 'and ſenſuality. In moſt of the countries which I had 'viſited, they are taught nothing of an higher nature than a 'few modulations of the voice, or uſeleſs poſtures of the 'body; their time is conſumed in ſloth or trifles, and 'trifles become the only purſuits capable of intereſting 'them. We ſeem to forget, that it is upon the qualities 'of the female ſex that our own domeſtic comforts and the 'education of our children muſt depend. And what are the 'comforts or the education which a race of beings, cor-'rupted from their infancy, and unacquainted with all the 'duties of life, are fitted to beſtow? To touch a muſical 'inſtrument with uſeleſs ſkill, to exhibit their natural 'or affected graces to the eyes of indolent and debauched 'young men, to diſſipate their huſband's patrimony in 'riotous and unneceſſary expences, theſe are the only arts 'cultivated by women in moſt of the poliſhed nations I had 'ſeen. And the conſequences are uniformly ſuch as may 'be expected to proceed from ſuch polluted ſources, private 'miſery and public ſervitude.

'But Selene's education was regulated by different 'views, and conducted upon ſeverer principles; if that 'can be called ſeverity which opens the mind to a ſenſe of 'moral and religious duties, and moſt effectually arms it 'againſt the inevitable evils of life.'

Mr. Day's Sandford and Merton, Vol. III.

common

common ſenſe, and ſavour of paſſion. The *divine right* of huſbands, like the divine right of kings, may, it is to be hoped, in this enlightened age, be conteſted without danger, and, though conviction may not ſilence many boiſterous diſputants, yet, when any prevailing prejudice is attacked, the wiſe will conſider, and leave the narrow-minded to rail with thoughtleſs vehemence at innovation.

The mother, who wiſhes to give true dignity of character to her daughter, muſt, regardleſs of the ſneers of ignorance, proceed on a plan diametrically oppoſite to that which Rouſſeau has recommended with all the deluding charms of eloquence and philoſophical ſophiſtry: for his eloquence renders abſurdities plauſible, and his dogmatic concluſions puzzle, without convincing, thoſe who have not ability to refute them.

Throughout the whole animal kingdom every young creature requires almoſt continual exerciſe, and the infancy of children, conformable to this intimation, ſhould be paſſed in harmleſs gambols, that exerciſe the feet and hands, without requiring very minute direction from the head, or the conſtant attention of a nurſe. In fact, the care neceſ-

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